

41 SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION: BASIC EDUCATION

Low quality poor schools. Less than half matric. Science + maths results too low technical training needed by economy. We must:

- Fast track the provision of computers and internet to schools
- Act on MECs and managers in government who fail to perform
- Provide training support to Learner Representative Councils (LRCs)
- Provide learner psycho-social support. Sanitary wear for girls
- Improve the efficiency of scholar transport provision
- Schools with amenities share with disadvantaged schools,
- Review assessment approach + avoid constant curriculum change.
- Create policy on talent-focused schools for gifted learners
- Move Early Childhood Development (ECD) from Social Development to Department Basic Education. Compulsory Grade R by 2019.
- School sport should be compulsory, disabled learners included
- All teachers, principals, deputy principals, district officials to be evaluated to improve skills + accountability.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Many more black students, but high costs and poor basic education affect success rates. #Feesmust fall disrupted last two years. We must:

- Clarify role of colleges, improve quality, more colleges for agriculture, nursing, policing and teaching. Incentives to increase numbers in scarce skills programmes. Prioritise maths, science and technology
- Framework for fees and funding for higher education. Families earning R150 000 and R600 000 get grants, loans, + pay some fees
- Engage constructively with student organisations, management, private sector around fees and support for students.
- Support for books, equipment, transport, food, accommodation
- Consider graduate and other tax. SARS should recover loans.
- Colleges, universities prioritise mathematics, science and technology
- Community service is in principle required from all funded students
- SOEs, private sector provide opportunities for practical training
- Retirement age of professionals and academics must be increased

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (STI)



To grow economy we need innovation, invention, and people able to use science and technology. Investing too little in research. Need:

- Government and business use more locally produced technologies.
- Investment from government and business in research + innovation and post graduate research
- Coordinate policies and incentives across our economy, for science and technological innovation and improved service delivery.
- Promote science and technological innovation as a daily activity that students, learners and workers use in every sector to invent new technologies and products. Every sector to attempt to invent new technologies and products by analysing and learning from those imported and used daily in their lives.
- Encourage more young people to study science and maths and improve teaching

HEALTH

Many of the policies adopted in previous conferences have not been fully implemented and we must continue to build a more effective, efficient and properly staffed health service, able to reach all communities. Proposals:

- Strengthen measures to improve the quality of care delivered in the public and private sector plus draft a policy to curb high costs of medical insurance and litigation against medical malpractice.
- SA needs a state pharmaceutical company and a better system for controlling medicine distribution to avoid shortages of crucial medication at clinics.
- All children must be vaccinated for preventable diseases by 2037
- The assessment of the NHI pilots and funding models must be completed.
- Facilities used by the South African Military Health Services) should be revitalised in line with NHI infrastructure program